Point of Comparison	Articles of Confederation	Constitution
Formal name of the nation	The United States of America	Not specified, but referred to in the Preamble as “the United States of America”
Legislature	**Unicameral, called Congress**	**Bicameral, called Congress, divided into the House of Representatives and the Senate**
Members of Congress	**A delegation between two and seven members per state**	**Two senators per state, representatives apportioned according to population of each state**
Voting in Congress	**One vote per state delegation**	**One vote per representative or senator**
Appointment of members	**All appointed by state legislatures in the manner each legislature directed**	**Representatives elected by popular vote; senators appointed by state legislatures (which was switched to direct election by the Seventeenth Amendment of 1913)**
Term of legislative office	**One year**	**Two years for representatives, six years for senators**
Term limit for legislative office	**No more than three of every six years**	**None**

When Congress is not in session	**A Committee of States had the full powers of Congress**	**The president of the United States can call on Congress to assemble.**
Chair of legislature	**President of Congress**	**Speaker of the House of Representatives; vice president is president of the Senate.**
Executive	**None; the “president” was simply presiding officer of Congress.**	**President**

National judiciary	**Maritime judiciary established—other courts left to states**	**Supreme Court established as well as other federal courts Congress deems necessary**
Adjudicator of disputes between states	**Congress**	**Supreme Court**
New states	**Admitted upon agreement of nine states (special exemption provided for Canada)**	**Admitted upon agreement of majority of Congress**
Amendment	**When agreed upon by all states**	**When agreed upon by two-thirds of Congress and three-fourths of states**

Navy	**Congress authorized to build a navy; states authorized to equip warships to counter piracy**	**Congress authorized to build a navy; states not allowed to keep ships of war**
Army	**Congress to decide on size of force and to requisition troops from each state according to population**	**Congress authorized to raise and support armies**
Power to coin money	**United States and the states**	**United States only**
Taxes	**Apportioned by Congress, collected by the states**	**Levied and collected by Congress**
Ratification	**Unanimous consent required**	**Consent of nine states required**

POINT OF COMPARISON	ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION	CONSTITUTION
Formal name of the nation		
Legislature		
Members of Congress		
Voting in Congress		
Appointment of members		
Term of legislative office		
Term limit for legislative office		
When Congress is not in session		
Chair of legislature		

Executive		
National judiciary		
Adjudicator of disputes between states		
New states		
Amendment		
Navy		
Army		
Power to coin money		
Taxes		
Ratification		

The United States of America	The United States of America	The United States of America
Unicameral, called Congress	Unicameral, called Congress	Unicameral, called Congress
A delegation between two and seven members per state	A delegation between two and seven members per state	A delegation between two and seven members per state
One vote per state delegation	One vote per state delegation	One vote per state delegation
All appointed by state legislatures in the manner each legislature directed	All appointed by state legislatures in the manner each legislature directed	All appointed by state legislatures in the manner each legislature directed
One year	One year	One year
No more than three of every six years	No more than three of every six years	No more than three of every six years
A Committee of States had the full powers of Congress	A Committee of States had the full powers of Congress	A Committee of States had the full powers of Congress
President of Congress	President of Congress	President of Congress
None; the “president” was simply presiding officer of Congress.	None; the “president” was simply presiding officer of Congress.	None; the “president” was simply presiding officer of Congress.

Maritime judiciary established—other courts left to states	**Maritime judiciary established—other courts left to states**	**Maritime judiciary established—other courts left to states**
Congress	**Congress**	**Congress**
Admitted upon agreement of nine states (special exemption provided for Canada)	**Admitted upon agreement of nine states (special exemption provided for Canada)**	**Admitted upon agreement of nine states (special exemption provided for Canada)**
When agreed upon by all states	**When agreed upon by all states**	**When agreed upon by all states**
Congress authorized to build a navy; states authorized to equip warships to counter piracy	**Congress authorized to build a navy; states authorized to equip warships to counter piracy**	**Congress authorized to build a navy; states authorized to equip warships to counter piracy**
Congress to decide on size of force and to requisition troops from each state according to population	**Congress to decide on size of force and to requisition troops from each state according to population**	**Congress to decide on size of force and to requisition troops from each state according to population**
United States and the states	**United States and the states**	**United States and the states**
Apportioned by Congress, collected by the states	**Apportioned by Congress, collected by the states**	**Apportioned by Congress, collected by the states**
Unanimous consent required	**Unanimous consent required**	**Unanimous consent required**

Not specified, but referred to in the Preamble as “the United States of America”	Not specified, but referred to in the Preamble as “the United States of America”	Not specified, but referred to in the Preamble as “the United States of America”
Bicameral, called Congress, divided into the House of Representatives and the Senate	Bicameral, called Congress, divided into the House of Representatives and the Senate	Bicameral, called Congress, divided into the House of Representatives and the Senate
Two senators per state, representatives apportioned according to population of each state	Two senators per state, representatives apportioned according to population of each state	Two senators per state, representatives apportioned according to population of each state
One vote per representative or senator	One vote per representative or senator	One vote per representative or senator
Representatives elected by popular vote; senators appointed by state legislatures (which was switched to direct election by the Seventeenth Amendment of 1913)	Representatives elected by popular vote; senators appointed by state legislatures (which was switched to direct election by the Seventeenth Amendment of 1913)	Representatives elected by popular vote; senators appointed by state legislatures (which was switched to direct election by the Seventeenth Amendment of 1913)
Two years for representatives, six years for senators	Two years for representatives, six years for senators	Two years for representatives, six years for senators
None	None	None
The president of the United States can call on Congress to assemble.	The president of the United States can call on Congress to assemble.	The president of the United States can call on Congress to assemble.

Speaker of the House of Representatives; vice president is president of the Senate.	**Speaker of the House of Representatives; vice president is president of the Senate.**	**Speaker of the House of Representatives; vice president is president of the Senate.**
President	**President**	**President**
Supreme Court established as well as other federal courts Congress deems necessary	**Supreme Court established as well as other federal courts Congress deems necessary**	**Supreme Court established as well as other federal courts Congress deems necessary**
Supreme Court	**Supreme Court**	**Supreme Court**
Admitted upon agreement of majority of Congress	**Admitted upon agreement of majority of Congress**	**Admitted upon agreement of majority of Congress**
When agreed upon by two-thirds of Congress and three-fourths of states	**When agreed upon by two-thirds of Congress and three-fourths of states**	**When agreed upon by two-thirds of Congress and three-fourths of states**
Congress authorized to build a navy; states not allowed to keep ships of war	**Congress authorized to build a navy; states not allowed to keep ships of war**	**Congress authorized to build a navy; states not allowed to keep ships of war**
Congress authorized to raise and support armies	**Congress authorized to raise and support armies**	**Congress authorized to raise and support armies**
United States only	**United States only**	**United States only**
Levied and collected by Congress	**Levied and collected by Congress**	**Levied and collected by Congress**
Consent of nine states required	**Consent of nine states required**	**Consent of nine states required**